Setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit

Financial assistance up to Rs. 1.50 crore is provided to State Government for setting up of Cobalt Therapy Unit in Government institutions. This is a one-time grant.

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore is also provided for Cobalt Therapy Unit to the Non- Governmental Organisations on the specific recommendations of the State Government. This is one-time grant.

Voluntary Organisation Scheme

In the scheme up to Rs. 5.00 lakhs is provided to the Voluntary Organisations for undertaking health education and early detection activities in cancer on the specific recommendations of the State Government.

District Cancer Control Programme

A scheme for district project (duration five years) for health education, detection and pain relief measures under National Cancer Control Programme was initiated during the year 1990-91. In this scheme, financial assistance of Rs. 15.00 lakhs is provided to the State Government/UT administration for each district selected under the scheme with a provision of Rs. 10.00 lakhs per annum for each district for the remaining four year of the project period. After five years, the project is to be taken over by the State Government.

Regional Cancer Centres

This Ministry has recognised 17 Regional Cancer Centres in different States and an amount of Rs. 75.00 lakhs annually is provided. These RCCs extend treatment facilities and conduct research in the field of cancer.

Health care services in the country

1387. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched various schemes and programmes to ensure that health care services reach every nook and corner of the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide the services in villages and small panchayats; and

(c) how do Government propose to stabilize the growth of population?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) and (b) Health being a State subject, State Governments are primarily responsible for providing health facilities to the people. However, to provide better medical facilities a comprehensive network of rural health infrastructure has been set up under the Basic Minimum Services Programme. The Central Government is also assisting the States under the National Health Programmes for Control of Malaria; TB, Blindness, Leprosy, AIDS Cancer Iodine Deficiency Disorders, Mental Health and Family Welfare Programmes. Efforts are also being made to increase the outreach of health care services in rural areas through Swasthya Melas. Reproductive and Child Health Camps, Dai Training and Reproductive and Child Health Programmes. Under Pradhan Mantri's Gramodaya Yojana, funds are released to further the goal of primary health care through strengthening of Primary Health Care Institutions. Central Government has been making every effort to augment the resources for the health and family welfare sector by mobilising external assistance from various bilateral and multi-lateral agencies. Besides, for upgrading the rural hospitals in selected States, World Bank assistance is being availed of, which would further improve delivery of health services.

(c) Some of the initiatives taken by the Government during the last two years on the issues of containing the growth of population and expediting the pace of implementation of National Family Welfare Programmes include adoption of a comprehensive National Population Policy; Constitution of National Commission on population and an Emprowered Action Group and Upgradation of Health Infrastructure.

State level Illness Assistance Fund in Andhra Pradesh

1388. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State level Illness Assistance Fund is functional in Andhra Pradesh to provide health care and hospitalization to the poor in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central grants are being provided to the fund regularly; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.